

**ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE****RESOLUTION 2003-4****A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING REMOVAL OF DISINCENTIVES FOR NEW  
BOROUGH FORMATION AND PROPOSING GREATER LOCAL FLEXIBILITY IN  
THE DETERMINATION OF BOROUGH BOUNDARIES**

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 359, Section 3, New Borough Incorporation, passed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 22nd Alaska Legislature, calls for the Local Boundary Commission to review conditions in the Unorganized Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the State of Alaska, Article X, Section 3, allows for, among other things, Borough consolidations and mergers; and

**WHEREAS**, no new Alaska boroughs have been organized in over 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature serves as the Assembly for the Unorganized Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the annual reports of the Local Boundary Commission, over the past 20 years the Legislature has removed almost every incentive for borough formation (for example, severely reducing municipal revenue sharing) and removing incentives (for example, not funding borough formation studies); and

**WHEREAS**, the present system of creating boroughs is antiquated and cumbersome and acts as a disincentive to the regions of Alaska who would otherwise entertain borough formation; and

**WHEREAS**, the economics of the State have dramatically declined and changed within the past ten years, rendering the Model Borough Boundary proposal of 1992 obsolete and impractical.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska Municipal League encourages the Alaska State Legislature to work with the Local Boundary Commission, communities, and the public to revisit the regulations and standards under which the Model Borough Boundaries were adopted and to reconsider state policies that are deterrents to Borough formation, and base them on the present economy of the State, also allowing for future change as necessity dictates.

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